

Provisions of House Bill 1303 of Interest to the Washington Climate Change Challenge

The following summarizes the provision of House Bill 1303 that relate most directly to the work of the Washington Climate Change Challenge. A copy of the final bill, as signed by the Governor, is available at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=1303>. Note that there are several provisions in the legislation that assign the ultimate responsibility to the Departments of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) and Ecology (ECY) to produce reports or analyses in conjunction with to the Climate Change Challenge Executive Order 07-02 (EO) process.

Climate Advisory Team

Section 403 directs ECY and CTED to complete the stakeholder process identified in the EO, and report to the legislature by December 1, 2008 or within the report produced for the EO.

Forestry TWG

Section 403(2) requires ECY and CTED, working closely with the Department of Natural Resources, to include the forestry sector in the stakeholder process recommendations and the multi-sector market recommendations. The Forestry TWG should be cognizant of these requirements.

Energy Supply and Transportation TWG

Section 401 directs CTED and ECY, as part of EO implementation, to analyze vehicle electrification. The analysis may include:

- An analysis of state agencies' plug-in hybrid vehicles and plug-in availability at state-locations;
- Incentives for the use of plug-in truck auxiliary power units and truck stop electrification;
- Use of plug-in shore power for cargo and cruise ship terminals, shipside technology, and use of electric power alternatives for port-related operations and equipment such as switching locomotives, vessels and harbocraft, and cargo-handling equipment;
- The potential for plug-in hybrid school busses;
- Environmental and electrical grid impacts on electrical power consumption of the potential amount of plug-in hybrid vehicles;
- State laws, rules, tariffs, and policies that impact plug-in adoption, including pricing with incentives for off-peak charging;
- Incentives for the public use of plug-in vehicles, resulting cost savings, and whether state and local agencies should be required to purchase plug-in hybrid vehicles (if it is determined that those vehicles are commercially available at a reasonably comparable life-cycle cost);
- The potential of electrification of fixed transit routes for magnetic levitation propulsion systems;
- Actions by the state to help industries located in the state participate in developing and manufacturing plug-in vehicles and vehicle-to-grid technologies; and
- Any additional ways the state can promote transportation electrification in the private and public sectors

CTED and ECY shall report to the legislature by March 1, 2008; this report may be included within the report produced for the EO. Note there is considerable overlap between the work plan for the Transportation and Energy Supply TWGs and what the Vehicle Electrification study may include.

Transportation TWG

Sec. 202 requires all state and local government owned vessels, vehicles, and construction equipment to operate on electricity or biofuel by 2015. Section 204 requires CTED by June 1, 2010, to develop rules about how state and local governments are to achieve the requirements of Sec. 202. The rules should address a plan for how the goals will be met, the factors considered to comply with the goals, and a schedule for a phase-in process of the goals of Sec. 202

Section 402 directs WSU and CTED to report to the legislature and governor suggestions for potential biofuel incentive programs including market incentives, preferred research programs, and other research methods to accelerate biodiesel crop development. The report must be made by December 1, 2008.

The Transportation TWG needs to be cognizant of these requirements.

Agriculture TWG

Section 307(1) allows for energy freedom program projects that were given loans and funding prior to June 30, 2007 to continue to be serviced by the Department of Agriculture.

Section 307(2) directs the energy freedom program projects that have not received loan agreements or funding before June 30, 2007, to be transferred to the department for project management on July 1, 2007. Those projects transferred will be subject to the ongoing requirements of the energy freedom program.

The Agriculture TWG needs to be cognizant of these requirements.

Residential/Commercial/Industrial TWG

No action under HB 1303

Adaptation

Section 404 directs ECY and CTED to work with Climate Impacts Group at University of Washington to produce a comprehensive analysis on the impacts of climate change on the state's public health, agriculture, coast line, forestry, infrastructure, water supply, and water management. Work completed by December 1, 2007 must be included in the final report produced for the EO. Any further reports must be completed by December 15, 2008.

ECY/CTED

Section 403(1) relates to the Western Regional Climate Action Initiative (WCI) and The Climate Registry by directing ECY and CTED to develop a framework for how Washington can participate in multi-sector markets (this is being done through the WCI) and to include in that framework credible, verifiable, and replicable inventory and accounting methodologies for each sector involved (this is being done through The Climate Registry, which Washington joined as a founding member).